

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR DISTRIBUTION EXAMINATION AND CERTIFICATION JANUARY 2001

Grade	Minimum Qualifications for Examination	Minimum Qualifications for Certification
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High School or GED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful completion of the Grade D1 operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification.
D2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High School or GED <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>One 36 contact hour (3-unit) course of specialized training covering the fundamentals of water supply principles.</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful completion of the Grade D2 operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification.
D3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A valid Grade D2 or interim Grade D3 or higher operator certificate. <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Two 36 contact hour (3-unit) courses of specialized training that includes at least one course covering the fundamentals of water supply principles</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful completion of the Grade D3 operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification AND; One year of operator experience working as a certified D2 operator, interim D3 or higher operator, or temporary D3 operator for a D2 system or higher, or a system that prior to January 1, 2001 would have met the criteria for classification as a D2 system or higher AND; At least one additional years of operator experience working as a distribution operator.
D4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A valid Grade D3 or interim Grade D4 or higher operator certificate <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Three 36 contact hour (3-unit) courses of specialized training that includes at least two courses in water supply principles</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful completion of the Grade D4 operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification AND; At least one year of operator experience working as a certified D3, interim D4 or higher operator, or temporary D4 operator for a D3 system or higher, or a system that, prior to January 1, 2001 would have met the criteria for classification as a D3 facility or higher. AND; At least three additional years of operator experience working as a water distribution operator.
D5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A valid Grade D4 or interim Grade D5 operator certificate <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Four 36 contact hour (3-unit) courses of specialized training that includes at least two courses in water supply principles.</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful completion of the Grade D5 operator examination within the three years prior to submitting the application for certification AND; At least two years of operator experience working as a certified D4, interim D5 operator, or temporary D5 operator for a D4 or D5 system, or a system that prior to January 1, 2001 would have met the criteria for classification as a D4 or D5 system. AND; At least three additional years of operator experience working as a distribution operator.

*High school/GED equivalency for **Grades 1 and 2 ONLY** can be fulfilled with either successful completion of **Basic Small Water Systems Operations** course provided by the Department **OR 1 year** as an operator of a facility that required an understanding of a piping system that included pumps, valves, and storage tanks.

Experience Substitutions for Certification, as referenced above:

(1) A degree earned at an accredited academic institution may be substituted as follows:

- (a) **Associate Degree or Certificate** in water or wastewater technology or distribution that includes at least 15 units of physical, chemical, or biological science may be used to fulfill 1 year of general operator experience.
- (b) **Bachelor Degree** in biology, chemical engineering, chemistry, civil engineering, environmental engineering, microbiology, public health, and sanitary engineering may be used to fulfill 1.5 years of general operator experience
- (c) **Masters Degree** in biology, chemical engineering, chemistry, civil engineering, environmental engineering, microbiology, public health, and sanitary engineering may be used to fulfill 2 years of general operator experience

(2) A certified operator may substitute on a day-for-day basis, one additional year of operator experience working as a distribution operator with experience gained while working with lead responsibility for water quality or quantity related projects or research.